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South Dakota Labor Bulletin

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Who's minding the kids?

Parents, employers alike face day care needs of children

It's 7:00 on a Monday morning. Dad's shaving and the kids are starting to stir. Where's mom? Unlike earlier days when it was more likely that she was in her bathrobe and slippers and would be spending the day at home with the kids, she's scurrying around to get ready for work too. And instead of leisurely eating breakfast or playing with toys in their pajamas, the kids must be dressed too, so that they can be taken to the baby-sitter or day care center while mom and dad work.

What, you might ask, does this scene have to do with the labor market? The significance lies in mom also working outside the home and the corresponding need for child care.

The number of women in the work force, especially those with children, has increased. In 1975, there were 13 million women with children in the nation's labor force. By 1988, that number had risen to more than 20 million. Although similar statistics for South Dakota are not available, data is available on the labor force participation of women in general. In 1970, just 39.1 percent of South Dakota women 16 years and older were in the labor force. By 1990, that percentage was 61.8 percent.

The female labor force has grown as women went to work out of economic necessity (many of whom are female heads of households) or to seek self-fulfillment through a career. For single and married mothers alike, finding affordable, acceptable care for their children is a very important factor in making a decision about working outside the home--and the lack thereof is often a barrier to their participation in the work force. The National Longitudinal Survey of Youth showed that an estimated 1.1 million mothers in the 21 to 29 age group said they were out of the labor force because of child-care problems in 1986. They represented almost 14 percent of the total population of mothers in that age group and accounted for 23 percent of those who were out of the labor force in that year.

We would be remiss (not to mention outdated) if we considered child care responsibilities to affect only women's participation in the labor force. Most of us know of cases where the father, rather than the mother, stays home with the children. And for the growing number of single fathers, child care is certainly a concern as well.

Child care problems affect productivity

The availability and quality of child care affects not only a parent's decision whether or not to participate in the labor force, but also their work attendance and performance once they take a job. According to surveys of major corporate work sites for the *Harvard Business Review,* instances of employees being absent or tardy, leaving work early, and dealing with family matters during working hours were strongly related to difficulties the employees were having with child-care arrangements and juggling dual work/family responsibilities.

These surveys found that three-quarters of all employees with children under age 18 dealt with family matters during working hours. Forty percent of working parents missed at least one day of work in the prior three months because of child care problems.

For these and other reasons, child care is a concern of not only parents, but employers as well. With a smaller pool of youth and an aging work force, employers will be relying more than ever on women's entry and continued participation in the labor force. The availability of quality, affordable child care (which can become an impediment to their participation in the labor force and their work attendance and performance) then, becomes an important factor to employers as well--in their efforts to recruit and retain productive workers.

Ways employers can help

Accordingly, employers nationwide have developed various methods of providing assistance with child care. They range from offering flexible work schedules which enable employees to better juggle the demands of family and work, to establishing and operating day care centers for employees' children. Such centers are thought to improve productivity and morale, reduce absenteeism, and solve problems with the accessibility and quality of care. In some cases, employers have participated in consortium programs whereby several employers share the expenses, risks and benefits of the operation of a day care center.

Some employers offer programs on-site that provide day care to school-age children before and after school. In other cases, employers provide resource and referral programs to give employees information on child care availability.

Other forms of child care assistance from employers in the United States involve strictly monetary help. For example, some companies contract with an independent day care center to provide a number of slots for the children of employees at reduced rates. Some employers also give money directly to the employee to help purchase a slot, further subsidizing child care expenses. In other cases, employers offer voucher programs, offering employees direct cash benefits to spend on child care of the parents' choosing.

S.D. employers lend helping hand too

Some South Dakota employers have also responded to employees' needs for child care assistance. Citibank, for example, provides a day care center for 250 children of Citibank employees. The Children's Center is owned and operated by McKennan Hospital, but is for the use of Citibank employees and their children exclusively. Citibank subsidizes the Children's Center by paying a portion of the employees' costs for taking their children there.

Sioux Valley Hospital also provides a day care center which is exclusively for children of employees. The Sioux Valley Hospital Child Care Center accommodates about 375 children of hospital employees. Fees charged to parents, which depend on the number of their children, cover about 48 percent of the cost of operating the center. The remaining 52 percent of funding comes from subsidization by Sioux Valley Hospital. Because of the popularity of the center (there is currently a waiting list of about 190 children), the hospital also initiated a day-care network. The network is a federally funded program sponsored by the hospital, which provides training to family day-care providers. Sioux Valley Hospital employees can contact the network for assistance when looking for child care arrangements.

McCord Corporation of Canton is another South Dakota company which took action to help employees with day care needs, after management noticed that employees were missing work, or in some cases even quitting work, because of day care problems. McCord joined in a community-wide effort to start a day care center. With McCord and other businesses making cash donations, supporters holding fundraisers, and the city making available the lower level of the old library, "Kids Castle" became a reality. The day care center currently cares for 20 children, including those of some McCord employees. McCord requested that the center open by 5:30 a.m. to accommodate the 10-hour day, 4-day work schedule of McCord employees.

Highlights of South Dakota's labor market in February

The South Dakota labor force in February 1992 was 355,500, with 343,300 South Dakotans employed and 12,200 unemployed. The unemployment rate was 3.4 percent, a decrease from the January rate of 3.7 percent. With resident labor force, employment and unemployment levels all down over the month, it appears that the unemployment rate dropped because some of those people who have been seeking work found jobs, and a smaller number of people entered the labor force to seek jobs.

Nonfarm wage and salaried employment showed a 900-job increase over the month. A closer look at where the employment changes occurred helps explain what seems to be a contrast from the resident employment decline mentioned above. The 900-job growth was actually the result of a 1,200 over-the-month job gain in local government which more than offset declines in other industries. The increase in local government was created by the hiring of temporary election workers for South Dakota's primary election in February. A portion of these temporary election workers are retired people or people who do not otherwise work or seek work (such as housewives who do not work outside the home), and their election job would make them a new part of South Dakota's labor force. However, some temporary election workers have another nonfarm wage and salaried job and simply have a day off from their regular job or work only part-time and can arrange their work schedule around election hours. Thus, the election day jobs of these workers with other nonfarm jobs would increase nonfarm employment levels without a corresponding increase in total employment and labor force levels.

State and local education increased by 300 and 100 jobs, respectively, and are reflecting back-to-normal employment levels after the holiday season. The 300 employment increase in private sector educational services is following the same trend as state and local education.

General merchandise and apparel stores in retail trade posted employment declines, which may be largely attributed to the reduction of part-time workers after the holidays.

Compared to a year ago . . .

Over the year, nonfarm wage and salaried employment in South Dakota increased 10,000 jobs (or 3.5 percent). All industry groups showed growth.

The services industry tied with manufacturing in employment growth, with the addition of 2,300 jobs each. Four hundred of the job increase in medical and health services was in the skilled nursing and intermediate care facilities. Social services noted increases in the areas of child day care; offices of specialists providing counseling, referral and other social services; and job training and vocational rehabilitation services. Membership organizations noted job growth of 300, which may be somewhat attributed to legalized gambling. Some other industries showing slight job growth were photo finishing labs and doctors' offices.

Job growth in the manufacturing industry occurred in the divisions of computer and transportation equipment, meat packing, and bakery products.

Retail trade took fourth place honors in job growth from year-ago employment levels. Eating and drinking establishments added 800 jobs from year-ago employment levels, bringing their employment to a 20,500 employment high for the month of February.

Wholesale trade added 700 jobs, the majority (600) of which were in the nondurable goods division. Establishments primarily engaged in the wholesale distribution of groceries, dairy products, confectionary products (candies and potato chips), and petroleum noted increases over year-ago employment levels. This somewhat ties to the job growth which is being noted in food stores.

Labor Force

	February 1992[1]				February 1991			
	Labor Force[2]	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force[2]	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
United States	**125,386,000**	**115,224,000**	**10,161,000**	**8.1**	**124,070,000**	**115,151,000**	**8,919,000**	**7.2**
(seasonally adjusted)	126,287,000	117,043,000	9,244,000	7.3	125,067,000	116,937,000	8,130,000	6.5
South Dakota	**355,500**	**343,300**	**12,200**	**3.4**	**354,100**	**340,900**	**13,100**	**3.7**
(seasonally adjusted)	361,500	350,500	11,000	3.0	360,300	348,400	11,900	3.3
Sioux Falls MSA	78,970	76,904	2,066	2.6	77,588	75,314	2,274	2.9
Rapid City MSA	40,012	38,656	1,356	3.4	39,433	37,921	1,512	3.8
Aurora	1,351	1,303	48	3.6	1,324	1,307	17	1.3
Beadle	8,321	8,022	299	3.6	8,662	8,332	330	3.8
Bennett	1,436	1,398	38	2.6	1,477	1,438	39	2.6
Bon Homme	3,502	3,436	66	1.9	3,545	3,333	212	6.0
Brookings	14,784	14,169	615	4.2	15,021	14,355	666	4.4
Brown	19,358	18,604	754	3.9	19,443	18,737	706	3.6
Brule	2,392	2,341	51	2.1	2,519	2,466	53	2.1
Buffalo	393	376	17	4.3	395	367	28	7.1
Butte	3,292	3,139	153	4.6	3,393	3,234	159	4.7
Campbell	1,019	974	45	4.4	1,001	955	46	4.6
Charles Mix	3,707	3,596	111	3.0	3,558	3,445	113	3.2
Clark	1,716	1,637	79	4.6	1,738	1,662	76	4.4
Clay	7,213	6,972	241	3.3	7,246	6,930	316	4.4
Codington	12,094	11,605	489	4.0	12,159	11,667	492	4.0
Corson	1,231	1,111	120	9.7	1,326	1,185	141	10.6
Custer	3,281	3,178	103	3.1	3,357	3,181	176	5.2
Davison	8,862	8,588	274	3.1	9,112	8,912	200	2.2
Day	2,965	2,805	160	5.4	3,028	2,887	141	4.7
Deuel	2,095	2,008	87	4.2	2,096	2,014	82	3.9
Dewey	1,863	1,714	149	8.0	1,886	1,751	135	7.2
Douglas	1,520	1,494	26	1.7	1,532	1,499	33	2.2
Edmunds	1,832	1,768	64	3.5	1,884	1,828	56	3.0
Fall River	3,117	2,970	147	4.7	3,057	2,910	147	4.8
Faulk	1,078	1,055	23	2.1	1,088	1,068	20	1.8
Grant	4,011	3,774	237	5.9	4,085	3,899	186	4.6
Gregory	2,165	2,090	75	3.5	2,163	2,103	60	2.8
Haakon	1,045	1,022	23	2.2	1,120	1,097	23	2.1
Hamlin	2,261	2,164	97	4.3	2,260	2,155	105	4.6
Hand	1,806	1,771	35	1.9	1,793	1,765	28	1.6
Hanson	1,348	1,293	55	4.1	1,322	1,289	33	2.5
Harding	655	625	30	4.6	669	657	12	1.8

Labor Force

	February 1992[1]				February 1991			
	Labor Force[2]	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force[2]	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
Hughes	8,525	8,316	209	2.5	8,319	8,084	235	2.8
Hutchinson	4,069	3,971	98	2.4	3,946	3,799	147	3.7
Hyde	791	774	17	2.1	817	794	23	2.8
Jackson	1,488	1,463	25	1.7	1,496	1,453	43	2.9
Jerauld	1,047	1,020	27	2.6	1,109	1,064	45	4.1
Jones	577	541	36	6.2	580	535	45	7.8
Kingsbury	2,674	2,538	136	5.1	2,623	2,501	122	4.7
Lake	4,804	4,569	235	4.9	4,993	4,734	259	5.2
Lawrence	12,803	12,290	513	4.0	12,488	11,966	522	4.2
Lincoln	7,187	6,985	202	2.8	7,081	6,844	237	3.3
Lyman	1,374	1,329	45	3.3	1,380	1,306	74	5.4
McCook	2,678	2,574	104	3.9	2,723	2,615	108	4.0
McPherson	1,327	1,287	40	3.0	1,354	1,294	60	4.4
Marshall	2,210	2,128	82	3.7	2,105	2,038	67	3.2
Meade	10,159	9,792	367	3.6	9,906	9,553	353	3.6
Mellette	819	789	30	3.7	822	769	53	6.4
Miner	1,320	1,284	36	2.7	1,562	1,516	46	2.9
Minnehaha	78,970	76,904	2,066	2.6	77,588	75,314	2,274	2.9
Moody	3,330	3,212	118	3.5	3,229	3,108	121	3.7
Pennington	40,012	38,656	1,356	3.4	39,433	37,921	1,512	3.8
Perkins	2,093	2,029	64	3.1	2,099	2,046	53	2.5
Potter	1,301	1,265	36	2.8	1,323	1,275	48	3.6
Roberts	4,387	4,127	260	5.9	4,404	4,189	215	4.9
Sanborn	1,016	980	36	3.5	1,052	1,004	48	4.6
Shannon	2,397	2,247	150	6.3	2,307	2,158	149	6.5
Spink	3,302	3,212	90	2.7	3,367	3,262	105	3.1
Stanley	1,570	1,512	58	3.7	1,425	1,362	63	4.4
Sully	736	698	38	5.2	734	703	31	4.2
Todd	2,545	2,415	130	5.1	2,488	2,370	118	4.7
Tripp	3,130	3,032	98	3.1	3,129	3,035	94	3.0
Turner	3,842	3,724	118	3.1	4,015	3,868	147	3.7
Union	7,112	6,839	273	3.8	6,260	6,012	248	4.0
Walworth	2,573	2,494	79	3.1	2,721	2,639	82	3.0
Yankton	10,411	10,174	237	2.3	10,860	10,326	534	4.9
Ziebach	1,178	1,146	32	2.7	1,087	1,050	37	3.4

[1] Preliminary data subject to revision.
[2] Labor force estimates include employed and unemployed civilians 16 years old and older by place of residence.

Source: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor, in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

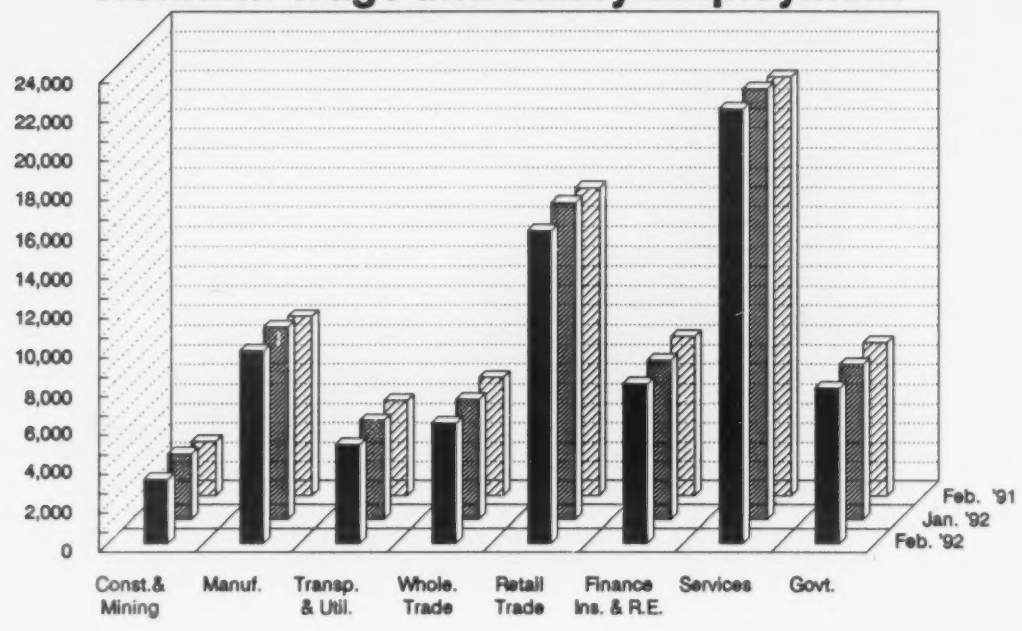
South Dakota Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment

	Feb. 1992	Jan. 1992	Feb. 1991	% Change From Last Month	% Change From Last Year
TOTAL	**295,400**	**294,500**	**285,400**	**.3**	**3.5**
GOODS PRODUCING	48,900	48,700	46,000	.4	6.3
Mining	2,600	2,600	2,500	.0	4.0
Construction	9,800	9,800	9,300	.0	5.4
Manufacturing	36,500	36,300	34,200	.6	6.7
Durable Goods	21,000	20,600	20,000	1.9	5.0
Nondurable Goods	15,500	15,700	14,200	-1.3	9.2
Food & Kindred Products	8,200	8,400	7,500	-2.4	9.3
Printing & Publishing	3,300	3,300	3,200	.0	3.1
SERVICE PRODUCING	246,500	245,800	239,400	.3	3.0
Transportation & Public Utilities	13,800	13,800	13,300	.0	3.8
Transportation	8,600	8,700	8,100	-1.1	6.2
Communication	2,900	2,800	3,000	3.6	-3.3
Electric/Gas/Sanitary Services	2,300	2,300	2,300	.0	.0
Wholesale Trade	19,200	19,200	18,500	.0	3.8
Durable Goods	8,700	8,700	8,600	.0	1.2
Nondurable Goods	10,500	10,500	9,900	.0	6.1
Retail Trade	57,500	58,400	56,500	-1.5	1.8
Eating and Drinking Establishments	20,500	20,700	19,700	-1.0	4.1
General Merchandise/Apparel	10,800	11,300	10,900	-4.4	-.9
Food Stores	8,800	9,000	8,600	-2.2	2.3
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	16,700	16,600	16,300	.6	2.5
Finance	10,900	10,800	10,700	.9	1.9
Depository Institutions	5,900	5,900	5,600	.0	5.4
Nondepository Institutions	4,300	4,300	4,500	.0	-4.4
Insurance Carriers, Agents & Brokers	3,800	3,800	3,800	.0	.0
Services	73,700	73,600	71,400	.1	3.2
Hotels/Motels & Amusements	9,300	9,200	8,100	1.1	14.8
Personal and Business	8,200	8,500	8,700	-3.5	-5.7
Medical and Health Services	28,800	28,800	28,100	.0	2.5
Hospitals	13,400	13,400	13,100	.0	2.3
Health Services, other than Hospitals[1]	15,400	15,400	15,000	.0	2.7
Educational Services	5,300	5,000	5,100	6.0	3.9
Social Services	5,900	5,800	5,600	1.7	5.4
Membership Organizations	9,200	9,200	8,900	.0	3.4
Government	65,600	64,200	63,400	2.2	3.5
Federal	11,300	11,600	11,000	-2.6	2.7
State	17,600	17,100	17,000	2.9	3.5
State Education	8,600	8,300	8,400	3.6	2.4
Local	36,700	35,500	35,400	3.4	3.7
Local Education	20,800	20,700	20,900	.5	-.5

Source: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

[1]Not developed in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Sioux Falls MSA
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment

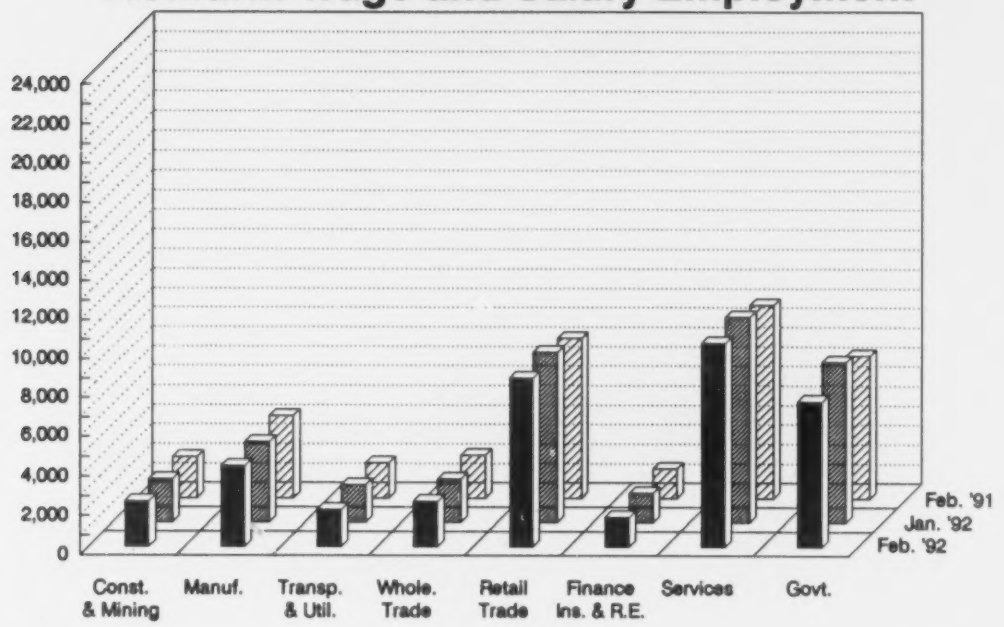


	Feb. 1992	Jan. 1992	Feb. 1991	% Change From Last Month	% Change From Last Year
TOTAL	**78,900**	**79,000**	**76,200**	**-.1**	**3.5**
GOODS PRODUCING	13,200	13,300	12,000	-.8	10.0
*Construction & Mining	3,300	3,400	2,800	-2.9	17.9
Manufacturing	9,900	9,900	9,200	.0	7.6
SERVICE PRODUCING	65,700	65,700	64,200	.0	2.3
Transportation & Public Utilities	5,100	5,100	4,900	.0	4.1
Wholesale Trade	6,200	6,200	6,100	.0	1.6
Retail Trade	16,000	16,200	15,700	-1.2	1.9
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	8,200	8,200	8,200	.0	.0
Services	22,200	22,000	21,400	.9	3.7
Government	8,000	8,000	7,900	.0	1.3

*Mining employment less than 100.

Source: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Rapid City MSA
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment



	Feb. 1992	Jan. 1992	Feb. 1991	% Change From Last Month	% Change From Last Year
TOTAL	**38,500**	**38,300**	**37,200**	**.5**	**3.5**
GOODS PRODUCING	6,400	6,300	6,300	1.6	1.6
*Construction & Mining	2,300	2,200	2,100	4.5	9.5
Manufacturing	4,100	4,100	4,200	.0	-2.4
SERVICE PRODUCING	32,100	32,000	30,900	.3	3.9
Transportation & Public Utilities	1,900	1,900	1,800	.0	5.6
Wholesale Trade	2,300	2,200	2,200	4.5	4.5
Retail Trade	8,600	8,700	8,200	-1.1	4.9
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1,500	1,500	1,500	.0	.0
Services	10,400	10,500	9,900	-1.0	5.1
Government	7,400	7,200	7,300	2.8	1.4

*Mining employment less than 300.

Source: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Hours and Earnings of Production Workers

	Number of Production Workers			Average Weekly Hours		
	Feb. 1992	Jan. 1992	Feb. 1991	Feb. 1992	Jan. 1992	Feb. 1991
South Dakota						
Total Private	189,000	190,100	184,500	32.8	32.1	32.4
Mining	2,200	2,200	2,100	44.3	43.2	41.5
Construction	7,500	7,600	7,100	37.1	38.7	37.6
Manufacturing	26,300	26,100	25,200	40.9	41.3	40.3
Transportation & Public Utilities	11,500	11,500	11,100	39.3	39.1	37.9
Wholesale & Retail Trade	67,200	68,100	65,800	28.9	28.0	29.2
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	12,400	12,400	12,300	37.9	36.3	35.3
Services	61,900	62,200	60,900	30.6	29.6	29.9
Sioux Falls MSA						
Manufacturing	7,000	7,000	6,300	41.8	40.7	41.0
Rapid City MSA						
Manufacturing	3,000	3,100	3,300	41.4	41.7	37.8

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Feb. 1992	Jan. 1992	Feb. 1991	Feb. 1992	Jan. 1992	Feb. 1991
South Dakota						
Total Private	$273.22	$265.47	$262.76	$8.33	$8.27	$8.11
Mining	581.66	571.54	525.39	13.13	13.23	12.66
Construction	399.57	405.96	388.03	10.77	10.49	10.32
Manufacturing	355.83	359.31	353.43	8.70	8.70	8.77
Transportation & Public Utilities	443.70	436.36	419.17	11.29	11.16	11.06
Wholesale & Retail Trade	202.88	194.32	196.22	7.02	6.94	6.72
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	360.81	329.97	299.70	9.52	9.09	8.49
Services	239.90	233.54	236.51	7.84	7.89	7.91
Sioux Falls MSA						
Manufacturing	$374.53	$368.74	$371.46	$8.96	$9.06	$9.06
Rapid City MSA						
Manufacturing	$387.09	$383.64	$342.09	$9.35	$9.20	$9.05

Source: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor, in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

■ Women held 51.7 percent of the nonfarm wage and salaried jobs in South Dakota in 1991.

■ The mining industry continues to employ the smallest percentage of females in nonfarm wage and salaried jobs, with just 7.7 percent of all mining jobs in 1991 being held by women.

■ The finance, insurance and real estate, services and government industries are the only major South Dakota industries which employ more women than men.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed[1]

	Feb. 1992	Jan. 1992	Feb. 1991
Total	3,793	3,989	3,679
Male	2,801	2,967	2,739
Female	992	1,022	940
White	3,480	3,669	3,421
Nonwhite	313	320	258
Under 45	2,681	2,862	2,661
Over 45	1,112	1,127	1,018
By Industry 2			
Mining	83	100	139
Construction	1,161	1,286	1,247
Manufacturing	663	684	823
Transportation & Public Utilities	169	187	167
Trade	786	763	567
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	78	84	66
Services	668	667	508
Government	185	218	162
By Occupation 2			
Professional & Managerial	432	426	360
Clerical and Sales	485	485	414
Services	505	558	404
Processing	104	103	134
Machine Trade	197	200	164
Benchwork	230	178	253
Structural Work	1,255	1,441	1,372
Other	585	598	578
By Duration of Current Unemployment			
1-2 Weeks	543	1,042	519
3-4 Weeks	597	675	564
5-14 Weeks	1,962	1,665	2,028
15 Weeks & Over	691	607	568

[1] The insured unemployed are those people who had worked for employers covered by South Dakota's Unemployment Insurance laws and who filed claims for unemployment insurance compensation during the week including the 12th of the month.

[2] Refers to industry and occupation involvement prior to unemployment.

Selected Labor Department Activities

	Feb. 1992	Jan. 1992	Feb. 1991	% Change From Last Month	% Change From Last Year
Unemployment Insurance					
A. Initial Claims	1,764	3,490	1,890	-49.5	-6.7
B. Weeks Compensated	16,283	19,087	15,400	-14.7	5.7
C. Amount of Benefit Payments	$1,647,334	$1,828,654	$1,497,129	-9.9	10.0
D. Unemployment Trust Fund Balance	$46,230,688	$47,398,156	$45,966,720	-2.5	0.6
Job Service					
E. Applicants Available (new and renewal)	4,877	7,115	5,572	-31.5	-12.5
F. Nonfarm Placements	2,695	3,027	2,770	-11.0	-2.7
G. Nonfarm Job Openings	7,818	8,005	8,446	-2.3	-7.4

Network in place for addressing career information needs

Well-informed career decision-making is a primary concern of not only those making career choices, but employers who need productive, aptly-trained workers as well. Promoting the development and use of occupational and career information for more effective career decision-making is one of the major purposes of the South Dakota State Occupational Information Coordinating Committees (SOICC).

Representatives of the Governor's Office of Economic Development), Vocational Education and the S.D. Department of Education, the Job Training Partnership Act office, Job Service of South Dakota, and the S.D. Department of Human Services serve on the South Dakota SOICC. Governor Mickelson has appointed the S.D. Department of Labor to carry out the South Dakota SOICC's activities, some of which include:

1. Design, develop, promote, and implement comprehensive occupational and labor market information systems to improve service to, and use by, job training, education, and economic development programs and initiatives.

2. Deliver comprehensive career information to address the needs of those in the process of making career choices, including the provision of computer systems and print materials to schools, job training centers, and other sites.

3. Provide training and technical assistance to specialists to improve the use of available labor market, occupational, and career information in both career decision-making and program planning and administration.

For more information on the South Dakota SOICC, contact the Labor Market Information Center at (605) 622-2314.

Technical Notes and Definitions

Pages 6, 7 and 8 - Nonfarm wage and salary employment estimates include almost all nonfarm wage earners (full and part-time) but exclude the self-employed. They are derived from a monthly sample survey of South Dakota non-agricultural establishments and include workers on the payroll for the week including the 12th of the month. These tables compare the current month's employment totals of the major industry groups to the totals of the previous month and year.

Page 9 - Average hours and earnings data are derived from reports of payrolls and hours for production and related workers in manufacturing and mining, construction workers in construction, and non-supervisory employees in private service-producing industries. The data cover full and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for the payroll period that includes the 12th of the month. The earnings figures are "gross" figures. They may be higher than employer wage rates, since they reflect premium pay for shift differentials and overtime work. The hours figures relate to the hours for which pay was received; this is different from scheduled or standard work hours.

Page 10 - The data in the table at the bottom of page 10 are taken from the records of the state unemployment insurance program and the state Job Service system. The terms are defined as follows:

A. Initial Claims - the total number of first claims for unemployment compensation.

B. Weeks Compensated - the total number of weeks for which claimants received compensation.

C. Amount of Benefit Payments - the total amount of money paid to claimants.

D. Unemployment Trust Fund Balance - the fund to which all required Unemployment Insurance taxes are paid and from which all benefits to claimants are paid.

E. Applicants Available (new and renewals) - the total number of different individuals who registered or renewed their registrations for work at Job Service offices in the state.

F. Nonag Placements - a count of the number of times during the month that Job Service applicants were hired by nonfarm employers.

G. Nonag Job Openings - a count of new job openings received during the month by South Dakota Job Service offices from nonfarm employers.

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South Dakota Labor Bulletin

Selected National Economic Indicators

	Feb. 1992	Jan. 1992	Feb. 1991	% Change From Last Month	% Change From Last Year
Consumer Price Index[1]	138.6	138.1	134.8	0.4	2.8
Industrial Production Index[2]	107.2	106.6	105.7	0.6	1.4
Retail Trade Sales[3]	$157,670	$155,609	$150,672	1.3	4.6
Privately Owned Housing Starts[4]	1,304	1,190	1,008	9.6	29.4
Bank Prime Loan Rate[5]	6.50	6.50	9.05	0.0	-28.2

[1]U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. 1982-84 = 100.

[2]Federal Reserve Board. Includes manufacturing, mining and utilities. 1987 = 100. Seasonally adjusted.

[3]Bureau of the Census. Adjusted for seasonal, holiday and trading day differences. In millions of dollars.

[4]Bureau of the Census. Includes new, privately owned housing units started. Seasonally adjusted annual rates. In thousands of units.

[5]Federal Reserve Board. Annual rates.

■ Among married men and women alike, rates of job absence caused by reasons other than their own illness are higher for those with children under 6 than those with older children or with no children, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

■ There were an estimated 3,310 child care workers in South Dakota in 1989, and it is projected there will be 4,235 in the state by 2000.

■ While most child care workers in South Dakota are either self-employed or work in child day care centers, this occupation is also found in bowling alleys, athletic clubs, school districts, and religious organizations, among others.